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Leicester, Mass. July 3, 1846.

My dear friend Webb,

It is indeed quite too long since I wrote to you; but I didn't need any reminder of that, from any quarter, - I knew it, - but 'twas unavoidable.

I was however truly glad to get your few lines of June 9., with enclosures for Richard. The latter I promptly despatched to him, as you gave his address, with a few words of my own, as time allowed.

Sometime last March I was called upon by a Committee of some of the best men in Boston to be the Secretary & acting Agent in a Movement for a National Testimonial to Am. Lloyd Garrison. Much interested in it as I was, having taken an active part in the efforts, for some time previous, to set the work forward, I was very loth to take this post.* The gentlemen who acted as the Committee were mostly men, who had never accepted all Mr. Garrison's principles & methods, but had adhered to their political parties, & their churches, &c. while acknowledging the essential correctness of his principles, & the justice of his demands, in the main. Ex-Gov. John A. Andrew was Chairmⁿ. of the Committee, and wrote the Circular Letter, wh. was printed the last of April, and wh. I have circulated thro' the mails ever since with what diligence I could. First, however, I went to Washington, by misdirection of the Comtee, to obtain the names of leading Gentlemen there, well known as ^{exponents} ~~teachers~~ of the loyal, antislavery, principles & purposes of the people of the country. I spent a week in Washington for that purpose (my son Edw.

* loth, because I thought there were others to do it much better; - one gentleman in particular, the first to have this general movement taken - but I appeared to him in vain.

kindly sharing his quarters with me), receiving much
help from Senator Henry Wilson, and from Mr. Baldwin
the Representative of the Worcester Congressional District
in which I live, as well as from others, and obtaining
the names of some 30 of the best men in Congress,
as well as letters from Chief Justice Chase & Mr. Sumner
of great value to the object. Then I came to Balt.,
to Phil^a, & to New York, obtaining valuable names
in all those cities; afterwards obtained others, by
correspondence; then had the whole printed, and,
as I said, have been engaged ever since, not only to
the full limit of my strength, but beyond it often,
in circulating the letters, in writing to friends all over
the country, in personal interviews with men
known or supposed to be friendly to the measure,
disposed to aid it. Within a week we
have published the Letter in several of the most
widely circulated journals in New York & Boston,
and shall proceed to do so in the other principal
cities of the loyal States. I am sending you by this
mail an "Advertiser" (Boston) containing it. I am
sending similar papers to Miss Estlin, Miss Wigham,
& Rev. F. Bishop, simply to inform them, as you, of
what I am doing, and of what some of his friends
here purpose for Garrison. - Knowing that you
will all be pleased to see it. I should be very
glad to have ~~this~~ this note go to Miss Estlin
& to Miss Wigham, for I shall not have time now,
(nor, I fear, for many weeks to come,) to write to
them directly. Perhaps I will send you a copy of
the Letter, as we have it in Letter sheet, that you may
know just how it looks.

We have a strong feeling, & a noble courage. They are abundantly sustained by all the circumstances. We have been led by a happy hand & a steady head. Our cause is ever with us, & affectionately, & faithfully, & devotedly, & with all our power.

Garrison, at past 60 yrs. of age, is peculiarly poor. He has never laid up a dollar of his earnings, - never had it perhaps to lay up; for his income has always been a very limited one, his style of living very simple, & his family a pretty large one; and his hospitality, while it was discriminating, has been large & generous, ^{and his gifts to the needy, many.} It is a wonder how he has got on with so little, & not got into debt. Many years ago a few friends in Boston purchased & gave him a small brick house of 3 stories. When his wife had been a paralytic for a year or more, the physician said she must go where there was more sun, more air. Wm. G. exchanged - rather sold his Boston house, & bought the one he now occupies, in Roxbury. But the exchange involved payments, & the moving expenses, which brought a mortgage of \$3000. on the house. At the first of Jan'y, his income from the "Liberator", of course, ceased. Soon after that, he entered into an engagement with Ticknor & Fields, Publishers, of Boston, to prepare a History of the Antislavery Movement, - receiving, by their liberality, an advance of money for present use. Most unfortunately (as we judge) he had a fall, in March, on the ice, coming with great violence upon his right arm & shoulder, wh. lamed & pained him badly. Singularly enough, some 3 weeks later, at a Railway depot, 10 ms. out of town (in ^{Lyonsville} ~~Heaton~~, where he had been to visit his old & dysp friend Jos. Southwick, first Pres^t of the Mass^{ts} Antisl. Society,) he got another fall, coming down again with great force on his right arm & shoulder. This quite disabled him; for ever since that time he has suffered severely, - losing much sleep, oftentimes unable to sleep thro' the night, unable to

We have a strong, fine, & noble complex. They are abundantly supplied by all the Conscience, Common sense, & the fine. We have enough to make their consciences. We believe we have been led by a mighty hand & a stretched-out arm, thus far, and we are not going to succumb to Robbery and Treason, in any price. Even liberty & affectionately, if necessary, I will follow.

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the first to have this general movement to me - but I objected to him in vain. I believe we shall come out right.

After the receipt of the thing. They who put him upon the Committee. I believe we shall come out right.

like a pen at all, - i.e. the writing of a brief note causing him to suffer sharp pains. He applied all sorts of physicians, regular & irregular, (as his Custom is; - I mean, he prefers the irreg. to the regular practitioners; - it is an idiosyncrasy which will never get out of him, & wh. perhaps tallies with his Constitution; for he never admits any prescriptive rule in any set of men, & believes in the gift of healing, as it manifests itself, in things medical as moral.) is now in the hands of a man who is doing him, & to much good, - one recommended to him by a leading professional man of Boston, too.

This accident has put back work on his history, - indeed stopped it entirely, I suppose.

But our movement for Garrison is not based upon his being poor, - for many men are that who deserve well of their country, too. But it is based upon his services to the Nation, & the eminent value of those services. "Never let it be spoken or thought of as a gift, or as a charity has been the language of many persons to me; I feel that I owe, & that the Country owes, a vast debt to Mr. Garrison, which I am glad to have an opportunity in any way to acknowledge." "There is no man living," said Judge Poland, one of the Vermont Senators, to me, "to whom the Country owes more than it does to Mr. Garrison." Hitherto, I have worked with much sympathy, but with too few helpers. Beyond Massachusetts, little has yet been done, or attempted. Thus far the subscription amount to \$9000. - The Comtee. have paid off the mortgage on his house, so that he owns that now, without incumbrance. - All this I have given as info. to Mr. G.'s nearest & best friends in Gr. Britain & Ireland not to have any publicity, or other use, made of it.

I have no time or room for public matters. Andrew Johnson has deceived the Northern people grossly. I detest & abhor him. Still I don't think him a deliberate

E. Q. is engaged upon a memoir of his father. His
oldest sister had commenced it, & carried it along; but felt
unequal to the labor of completing it. I believe that is
about its present position. — Mr. I have not heard
from F. Douglass for a long time. I can't tell what he is
about, or where he is. I agree with you that

W. L. G. has not all the qualifications for the work he
has undertaken. Yet there is an eminent fitness
in having such a History from his pen, & from his
point of view. The theme is large enough for many
sorts of Histories, & many varieties of mind.

My son Edward is just about sailing on a
3 year cruise in the Pacific Ocean — in U. S.

Steamer "Lackawanna". We are in fair health.

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